

REMARKS

Claims 1-20 remain in the application for consideration of the Examiner.

Reconsideration and withdrawal of the outstanding rejections are respectfully requested in light of the above amendments and following remarks.

Claims 1-10 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103 as being unpatentable over Andoh in view of Mujtaba in view of Stein; and Claims 11-20 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103 as being unpatentable over Mujtaba in view of Katsuragawa in view of Stein.

These rejections are respectfully traversed.

It is respectfully submitted that Andoh does not disclose or suggest the presently claimed invention including the partial pretraceback.

Applicants agree with the Examiner, as evidenced by page 2 of the Office Action, that Andoh does not disclose a Traceback unit.

It is respectfully submitted that Mujtaba does not disclose or suggest the presently claimed invention including a Traceback unit including a partial pretraceback.

The Examiner alleges that Mujtaba discloses a Traceback unit in the Abstract. However, this does not cure the above noted deficiencies.

It is respectfully submitted that Stein does not disclose or suggest the presently claimed invention including the partial pretraceback that performs a partial traceback for each trellis stage prior to storing the path decision information for later traceback completion.

The Examiner's attention is directed to column 12, lines 34-40 of Stein.

Here, Stein discloses a partial chainback that is a finite length chainback from a diverge point. The diverging point information sequence is obtained by changing only this finite number of output bits in the path from which it diverges.

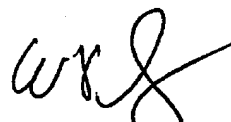
Furthermore, whether or not Katsuragawa discloses a channel conditioning estimated method and whether or not one of ordinary skill in the art would consider modifying Mujtaba, Andoh, or Stein is of no moment since the resulting construction would still in no way disclose or suggest the presently claimed invention.

In light of the above, it is respectfully submitted that the present application is in condition for allowance, and notice to that effect is respectfully requested.

While it is believed that the instant response places the application in condition for allowance, should the Examiner have any further comments or suggestions, it is respectfully requested that the Examiner contact the undersigned in order to expeditiously resolve any outstanding issues.

To the extent necessary, Applicant petitions for an Extension of Time under 37 CFR 1.136. Please charge any fees in connection with the filing of this paper, including extension of time fees, to the deposit account of Texas Instruments Incorporated, Account No. 20-0668.

Respectfully submitted,



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